

# **Welcome** to the Child Care Licensing Program **Provider Webinar**



# **New Assistant Deputy Director of Child Care Programs, CCLD**

**Karen Chang**

*Responsible for licensing operations, strategic planning,  
and development/implementation of statewide policy  
governing licensed childcare, through collaboration with  
internal and external stakeholders*

**Welcome Karen!**

# Topics

- Guidelines for Q & A
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Child Care Updates
- Question and Answer Session



# Guidelines for Q & A

- Ask questions that seek to clarify policies.
- Ask questions that are based on facts.
- Questions that are facility-specific or Licensing staff specific should be directed to your local [Regional Office](#).
- Clarification may be requested if more information is needed.
- Every effort will be made to answer questions within the time-frame allowed.

# New Section for Our Monthly Webinars

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q. What is the latest on COVID-19 testing? Should I be testing my staff?**

*A. Testing is one layer in a multi-layered approach to mitigating the spread of infection. For more information about testing, see CDPH [Updated COVID-19 Testing Guidance](#).*

*Local jurisdictions may modify these guidelines to account for local conditions or patterns of transmission.*

*Providers determine testing policies and procedures for their facilities/programs. Community Care Licensing (CCLD) **does not** make these business-related choices for providers/programs.*

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Cases in Licensed Child Care Facilities in California](#)

# Frequently Asked Questions (1 of 4)

**Q. What are the protocols for the Licensing Program Analysts (LPAs) and staff regarding COVID–19 prior to visiting facilities?**

**A. *Licensing staff:***

- *undergo mandatory COVID testing and completion of a daily self-screening assessment*
- *wear a unique set of personal, protective equipment for each visit*
- *minimize time onsite, while also ensuring enough information is gathered for a meaningful assessment*



# Frequently Asked Questions (2 of 4)

**Q. Are providers required to take temperatures of staff and children upon entry to a facility?**

*A. No, providers are not required to take temperatures of staff or children or maintain temperature logs. However, it is a best practice for infection control. If you choose to do so, please keep your logs for 3 years.*

*For centers, remember to continue to complete your daily health checks.*

*Daily health checks for family child care homes are not required but highly recommended.*

# Frequently Asked Questions (3 of 4)

**Q. Play materials: Are there any restrictions on sensory play? Dress-up clothing? Do we still need individual play kits?**

*A. Restriction on play materials is not required, but please be mindful of cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting protocols for toys and equipment.*



# Frequently Asked Questions (4 of 4)

**Q. Physical distancing: What are the physical distancing requirements in child care settings?**

*A. Physical distancing is an infection control practice that may be recommended as an additional safety layer between groups of children and staff to reduce the spread of COVID-19.*

*There are no distancing requirements, but if your setting allows for children to be spaced, please do as it's a practice that will reduce the spread of COVID-19.*

# Facial Coverings

[Current guidance](#) on facial coverings was developed in partnership with the CA Department of Public Health.

Facial coverings are required for all individuals indoors in childcare regardless of vaccination status.

See [PIN-21-18-CCP - Updated Coronavirus 2019 \(COVID-19\) Industry Guidance for Child Care Settings.](#)

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Masks (1 of 3)

**Q. Why do we need to check with our local health department on masks - shouldn't Licensing be the final authority?**

*A. The CCLD is working with Cal/OSHA, CDPH, and local health department partners. The best guidance for providers comes from several resources.*

*Licensing often refers providers to local health departments because they are **most familiar with transmission rates in your area** – this may change the criteria related to precautionary measures, such as masks or physical distancing.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Masks (2 of 3)

**Q. Could I be cited for not conforming to the mask mandate?**

*A. Progressive disciplinary action can be taken to gain compliance with licensees, applied on a case-by-case basis:*

- *Technical assistance in the form of a verbal/written warning*
- *An immediate health and safety citation (requires 24 hours to correct)*
- *If a licensee continues to be out of compliance, civil penalties are associated with repeat violations*
- *Non-compliance conference*
- *Temporary suspension and revocation action*

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Masks (3 of 3)

**Q. Who is exempt from wearing masks?**

*A. Persons younger than two years old. Very young children must not wear a mask because of the risk of suffocation.*

*Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a mask could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a mask without assistance.*

*Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Face Shields

**Q. Are face shields allowed?**

*A. A face shield alone cannot be substituted for a face covering under guidance of CDPH. Face shields maybe considered if a mask cannot be worn due to a medical condition or other exemption. A cloth drape should be attached to the bottom edge of the face shield and tucked into the shirt to minimize gaps between the face and face shield.*

*Refer to the [CDPH FAQ](#) on Face Shields and the [CDPH Face Covering Guidance](#).*



# Updates and Reminders





# Lead Week Webinar Series

There will be a series of webinars during Lead Week, October 25 – 29, 2021, which highlights important lead poisoning prevention work taking place throughout the State of California. These webinars are free and open to the public.

- The [Lead Week Webinar Series webpage](#) has information on each webinar taking place as well as registration links.
- **Thursday, October 28, from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**, Child Care Licensing program will be offering a presentation related to [new requirements for testing drinking water for lead](#). This session will provide up-to-date information and requirements for lead testing and funding opportunities for protecting children from lead in drinking water.

# New Regional Offices

We continue to look at ways to be responsive to and supportive of your needs.

Two new Regional Offices:

- El Segundo North Regional Office
- Fresno South Regional Office
- [List of Regional Offices](#)

# Survey 123 Everbridge

CCL continues to send out monthly surveys to obtain information on:

- COVID-19 positive staff cases
- Staffing challenges
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) needs

This information helps CCLD support providers with technical assistance and resources.

- Surveys are now separated, CCCs and FCCHs

For questions related to Survey 123 email

- For questions, email [CCLPEDC@dss.ca.gov](mailto:CCLPEDC@dss.ca.gov)

# **Governor's Executive Order N-12-21**

## **Extension of COVID-19 Waivers**

Extends CDSS waiver authority granted by the Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency on March 4, 2020.

[PIN 21-24 CCP](#) notifies all licensees and providers that COVID-19 related waivers are extended.

These waivers will expire on December 31, 2021, unless an earlier date is set by the CDSS, and a superseding notice is published.

# Stipend Update



- \$600 per subsidized child stipends
- Licensed family child care homes will receive a one-time stipend of \$3,500
- Licensed child care centers will receive one-time tiered stipends corresponding to the license maximum capacity:
  - \$3,500 centers with up to 14 children
  - \$4,000 for centers with 15-24 children
  - \$5,000 for centers with 25-60 children
  - \$6,500 for centers with 61+ children
- One-time \$500 incentive payments for newly licensed home providers received after completing 12 months as a licensed family child care home
- [Licensed Child Care Facility Stabilization Stipends](#)

# Questions

- [Contact your Regional Office](#)
- Coronavirus General Question Inbox  
[CCLCOVID-19INFO@dss.ca.gov](mailto:CCLCOVID-19INFO@dss.ca.gov)
- Child Care Assistance  
(800) 543-7793



*Note: Due to the rapidly changing guidance, please refer to the Governor's Office for COVID – 19 updates and your local county public health department for most current updates.*